
Joseph F. Anelli
Chief Staff Veterinarian
USDA, APHIS, VS, Emergency Programs

Dr. Anelli is currently the Chief of Emergency Programs Staff for the United States Department of Agriculture's Veterinary Services. Dr. Anelli manages a staff of 16 full time emergency managers with skills ranging from foreign animal disease, epidemiology, biosecurity, disaster management, entomology, and biologics. He was asked to lead this staff three years ago and has been working cooperatively with States, the veterinary profession and industries to deliver an integrated coordinated yet flexible emergency management system.

Dr. Anelli began his career with USDA in New York, where he led emergency task force operations for Avian Influenza and Exotic Newcastle viruses. He later attended the University of Minnesota's Masters in Veterinary Epidemiology Program. He has served as the National Swine Epidemiologist, Chief of Swine Health Staff, and Chief of National Animal Health Programs Staff before coming to Emergency Programs Staff.

Paula Cowen
Staff Veterinarian
USDA, APHIS, VS, PDS

Dr. Cowen grew up primarily in Colorado. She attended California State Polytechnic University in Pomona, CA for 3 years. She returned to Colorado to complete her undergraduate studies and attend veterinary school. She graduated from the College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences at Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO. in 1985. Upon graduation, she and her veterinarian husband bought a rural mixed practice in northeastern Colorado, where she worked for 10 years.

Paula has worked for APHIS as a Veterinary Educational Specialist since February 1995 with Organizational and Professional Development (OPD) at the Centers for Epidemiology and Animal health (CEAH) in Fort Collins. This has been a wonderful and exciting opportunity for her. Paula lives on a farm east of Fort Collins with her husband, John Belfrage, DVM and an Epidemiologist at CEAH, and three sons.

Mark L Davidson, DVM, MS
Area Veterinarian-In-Charge, Minnesota
USDA, APHIS, VS

Mark Davidson is the Area Veterinarian-in-Charge (AVIC) of Minnesota for the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal (USDA) and Plant health Inspection Services (APHIS), Veterinary Services (VS). He is currently managing the VS technical and administrative programs in the state of Minnesota. He is a member of the Eastern Regional Emergency Animal Disease Eradication Organization (READEO), group supervisor for Euthanasia. A member of the Safeguarding Implementation Committee, and the Minnesota Farm Cervidae Contingency Planning Task Force.

He is a two time graduate of Auburn University where he received his DVM in 1992 and a MS in Pathology in 1996. He received a BS in Agriculture from Western Kentucky University in 1988.

Most currently he has been working as the Operations Section Chief for Virginia Low-Path Avian Influenza Task Force. Other Emergency management experience includes the Assistant Director for the Hurricane Floyd Task Force in 1999 and Director for the Minnesota Accelerated Pseudorabies Eradication Program during 1999 to 2001.

W. Ron DeHaven, DVM, MBA
Deputy Administrator
USDA, APHIS, VS

Dr. Ron DeHaven is the Deputy Administrator of Veterinary Services (VS), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). In this position, he provides executive leadership across the broad range of activities and programs carried out by Veterinary Services.

Dr. DeHaven served as Acting Associate Administrator for APHIS/USDA from October 2001 to April 2002, at which time he was appointed the VS Deputy Administrator

From 1996 to 2001, Dr. DeHaven was the Deputy Administrator for the Animal Care unit of APHIS, administering the Animal Welfare Act and the Horse Protection Act. Before assuming the Deputy Administrator position, Dr. DeHaven was Animal Care's Western Regional Director in Sacramento, California, for 7 years.

DeHaven began career with APHIS in Lexington, KY, serving for 6 years as a Veterinary Services field Veterinary Medical Officer. He then moved to Jackson, Mississippi, where he was the Assistant Area Veterinarian for 4 years.

Dr. DeHaven was born in Salt Lake City, Utah. He obtained a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree from Purdue University in 1975 and a Masters in Business Administration from Millsaps College in May 1989. After graduating from veterinary school, he spent 4 years in the US Army Veterinary Corps before beginning his career with APHIS in 1979.

Raymond Francis
Educational Technology Specialist
USDA, APHIS, VS, PDS

Raymond Francis joined APHIS in October 2001, as an Educational Technology Specialist with the Veterinary Services (VS) Professional Development Staff (PDS). His primary roles are training design, delivery, and evaluation; project management; and facilitation. Raymond received his bachelor's degree in Business Management from the University of Maryland – University College. He is currently involved in distance learning and technology masters program at the University of Maryland Baltimore City. Raymond has extensive knowledge and experience in instructional system design (ISD) and distance learning.

He has lead responsibility for PDS' current initiative to expand the use of distance learning as a viable training delivery strategy. When completed, this strategy will enable VS and its programs to meet learner needs more efficiently by providing just-in-time training anywhere/anytime. Prior to joining PDS, Ray was with RWD Technologies, Inc., where he was involved in virtually all aspects of technical training development and delivery for several Fortune 500 companies.

Thomas J. Holt
Associate Director
USDA, APHIS, VS, Eastern Regional Office

As the Associate Director of the Eastern Region, Dr. Holt has emergency management responsibilities for Federal and Cooperative Animal Health Programs for 27 states. He has worked in a number of states and Puerto Rico and served in other countries on foreign assignments. Memorable work experiences include brucellosis epidemiology in large dairy herds outside Los Angeles, staff headquarters support for cattle surveillance and disease control programs, boophilus and babesia work in the Caribbean, leadership of a team to address tuberculosis in elephants, and task force direction of a Salmonella enteritis control program and Belgium sheep seizure and sample collection efforts, on an emergency basis. He recently served as an Incident Co Commander for the Virginia Avian Influenza Task Force. He has served for more than 12 years as Regional Emergency Animal Disease Eradication Organization (READEO) Director. READEO responsibilities include preparation and coordination of on-site responses to animal health emergencies in the Eastern half of the United States. He has earned BS and DVM degrees from Cornell University and first served the federal government as a Peace Corps volunteer working in animal health in Ethiopia. Prior to joining Veterinary Services, he worked in a mixed animal practice in Pennsylvania.

Terry L. Taylor
Area Veterinarian-In-Charge, Virginia
USDA, APHIS, VS

Terry L. Taylor is the Area Veterinarian-in-Charge (AVIC) of Virginia for the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services. He has held this position for the past 16 years. Prior to coming to Virginia, he was an Assistant AVIC in Georgia for 2 years. Before that he served USDA, APHIS, VS as a Section Veterinary Medical Officer in Northeastern Ohio. He came to USDA from a mixed animal practice in Central Ohio. He is a native of Tennessee and a two time graduate of The Ohio State University. He received his DVM from the OSU College of Veterinary Medicine in 1980. He served in the U. S. Army Infantry prior to starting college in Columbus, Ohio. He was a teacher prior to attending veterinary college.

Emergency management experiences include serving 4 ½ months on the Avian Influenza Task Force in Pennsylvania and Virginia in 1983-84, directing the Eastern Regional Emergency Animal Disease Eradication Organization (READEO) Carcass Disposal Unit in North Carolina after Hurricane Flood in 1999, providing technical assistance to the State of Ohio for euthanasia and carcass disposal after tornados destroyed poultry houses in 2000, and serving on the Virginia Avian Influenza Task Force April, 2002 to the present. Dr. Taylor is Co-Director of Operations for the Eastern READEO.